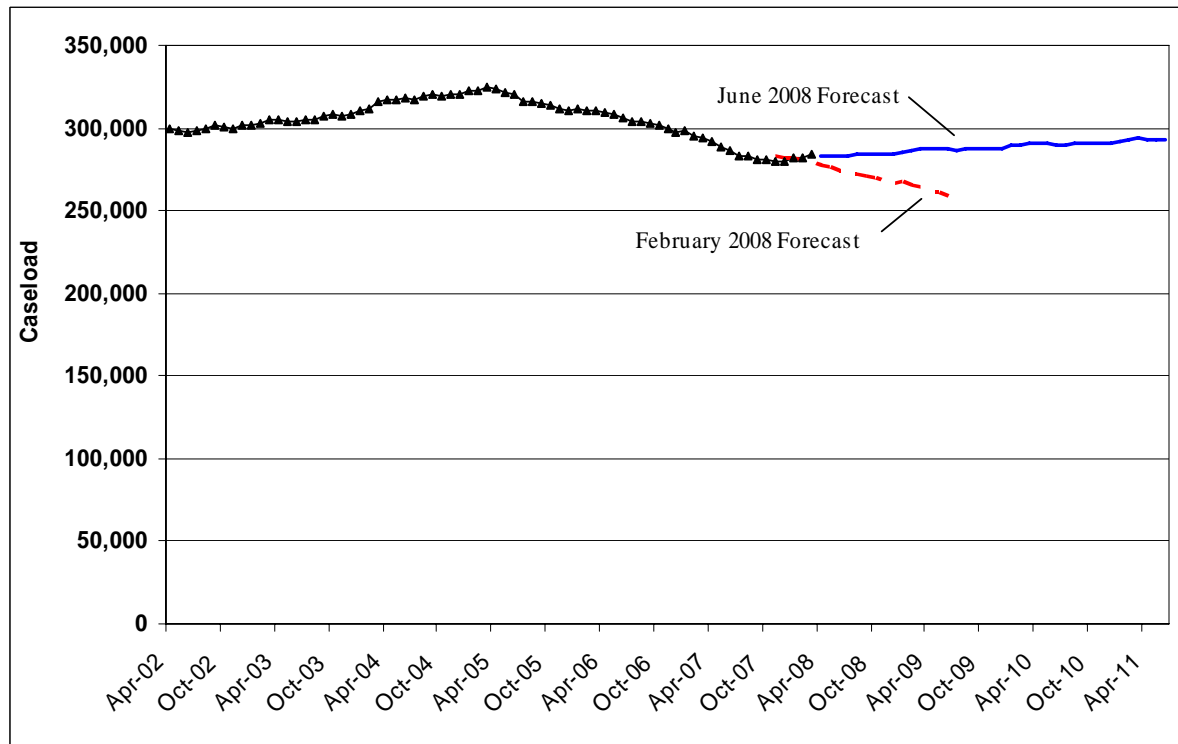


Health and Recovery Services Administration Families

Caseload Forecast Council
June 26, 2008

Families



The Families forecast is composed of three component forecasts: Categorically Needy (CN) Family Medical (for adults and children eligible for TANF), CN Pregnant Women, and Refugee Services. In Fiscal Year 2007, CN Family Medical made up 90 percent of this forecast group.

Forecast Comparisons (Fiscal Year Averages)

Fiscal Year	Feb-08 Forecast	Jun-08 Forecast	Feb-to-Jun Difference	Percent Difference
2008	280,262	282,087	1,825	0.7%
2009	266,640	285,265	18,625	7.0%
2010		288,721		
2011		291,705		

The Families forecast was held steady in February, after having been revised down in both June and November 2007. The CN Family Medical forecast of the Families forecast group was revised up in June 2008. The CN Family Medical program, after almost three years of decline, seems to have hit its turning point. Although data is still preliminary, there are several indications that the caseload will now begin to grow. First, exit rates for the program have recently fallen on a seasonally adjusted basis. Also, the TANF cash portion of the caseload is driving the recent increase, and this portion of the program usually leads Medical only and TANF extension recipients.

Tracking the Current Forecast

	Feb-08 Forecast	Actual	Variance	Percent Variance
Nov-07	282,850	279,335	-3,514	-1.2%
Dec-07	281,484	279,430	-2,053	-0.7%
Jan-08	282,398	282,463	65	0.0%
Feb-08	280,529	282,478	1,949	0.7%
Mar-08	279,768	284,202	4,434	1.6%

Forecast tracking reflects a possible turning point in the CN Family Medical program. There was an expected seasonal increase in January 2008, but unexpectedly growth continued in February and March. Although much of the data is still preliminary, the workgroup felt that transitioning back to an entry and exit rate model would be the best way to predict likely growth three years out to June 2011.

Medical Services for Families - Fiscal Year Caseload Change

Fiscal Year	Caseload Change	Percent Change		Caseload
2003-2004	9,064	3.0%	Actual	311,022
2004-2005	9,969	3.2%		320,991
2005-2006	-9,356	-2.9%		311,635
2006-2007	-14,690	-4.7%		296,945
2007-2008	-14,858	-5.0%	Forecast	282,087
2008-2009	3,178	1.1%		285,265
2009-2010	3,456	1.2%		288,721
2010-2011	2,984	1.0%		291,705

The Families forecast group is expected to resume growth, near the population growth rate, in Fiscal Year 2009.

Risks to the Forecast

Risks to the Medical Services for Families forecast are moderate to high. A turning point is always quite difficult to predict, and we currently only have a few months of data indicating growth. The main cause behind an increase in the CN Family Medical caseload is likely a weakening labor market. The workgroup will continue to work with OFM and DSHS staff this summer to identify the key drivers of program growth.

CN Family Medical

